

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of editing a document, the method comprising:
 - transferring document information to a printing device adapted to print the document information on a surface having a position-coding pattern;
 - receiving editing information from a reading device adapted to read position information from the position-coded surface;
 - interpreting the editing information; and
 - changing the document information depending on an interpretation of the editing information, thereby resulting in an updated document.
2. A method for editing a document, the method comprising:
 - transferring position-coding pattern information to a printing device adapted to print the position-coding pattern on a surface;
 - transferring document information to the printing device adapted to print document information on the surface;
 - receiving editing information from a reading device adapted to read position information from the position-coded surface;
 - interpreting the editing information; and
 - changing the document information based on an interpretation of the editing information, thereby resulting in an updated document.
3. A method according to claim 1 or 2, further comprising receiving device identity information from the reading device, the identity information associating the editing information with a user of the reading device.

4. A method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the editing information is associated with a plurality of users, and wherein each user generates at least one editing command with a reading device.

5. A method according to claim 4, wherein the editing commands generated by the plurality of users are in an ordered sequence identified by at least a timestamp associated with each editing command.

6. A method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the editing information includes position information related to a position of the reading device on the surface, and wherein the interpretation of the editing information includes interpretation of the position information.

7. A method according to claim 6, wherein the position information is in the form of sequences of coordinates forming manually generated curves corresponding in form to drawn curves on the printed document.

8. A method according to claim 1 or 2, further comprising displaying the document information of the updated document to a user.

9. A method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the step of changing the document information includes adding editing information in the form of handwritten annotations to the document.

10. A method according to claim 9, further comprising associating, based on position information included in the editing information, each of the handwritten annotations with a respective portion of the document information.

11. A method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein changing the document information includes reformatting one or more parts of the document information.

12. A method according to claim 11, wherein said reformatting is chosen from the group of:

adding text or graphics to said document information; removing text or graphics from said document information; or repositioning text or graphics included in said document information.

13. A method according to claim 12, wherein adding text includes converting part of the editing information to machine-readable text.

14. A method according to claim 1 or 2, further comprising initially registering said document in a pattern administration unit, wherein the pattern administration unit assigns a unique subset of said position-coding pattern to each page of said document.

15. A computer readable-medium having embodied thereon a computer program which can be read by a computer and which comprises instructions for causing a computer to execute the method according to claim 1 or 2.

16. A system for document editing, the system comprising:

storage means for storing a document;

means for transferring information from the document to a printing device capable of printing the information on a surface provided with a position-coding pattern;

means for receiving editing information from a reading device adapted to read position information from a position-coded surface;

means for interpreting the editing information; and

means for changing the document information based on an interpretation of the editing information, thereby resulting in an updated document.

17. A system for document editing, the system comprising:

storage means for storing a document;

means for transferring position-coding pattern information to a printing device capable of printing the position-coding pattern on a surface;

means for transferring information contained in the document to the printing device, the printing device being adapted to print the information on the surface;

means for receiving editing information from a reading device adapted to read position information from a position-coded surface;

means for interpreting the editing information;

means for changing the document information based on an interpretation of the editing information, thereby resulting in an updated document.

18. A system according to claim 16 or 17, further comprising means for receiving device identity information from the reading device, so as to associate the editing information with a user of the reading device.

19. A system according to claim 16 or 17, wherein said storage means is included in a computer device which is arranged to initially register said document in a pattern administration unit comprising a database of said position-coding pattern, said pattern administration unit being arranged to assign a unique subset of said position-coding pattern to each page of said document.

20. A system according to claim 19, wherein said means for receiving editing information is included in said pattern administration unit.

21. A system according to claim 19, wherein said means for receiving editing information is included in a local processing unit.

22. A method of editing a document containing information, the method comprising:

storing the document information in memory;
printing the document information on a surface, wherein the surface contains a readable code contained thereon in addition to the printed document information;

enabling an electronic pen to physically mark edit instructions on the surface and to electronically capture the edit instructions by reading the readable code proximate the marked edit instructions;

receiving through a processor associated with the memory the edit instructions captured by the electronic pen; and

altering the document information in memory to conform to the edit instructions.

23. The method of claim 22, wherein the readable code is a position coding pattern.